

Eolis lineata.—*Body* slender, transparent white, with three opaque white lines running from head to tail; viz. one on the back bifurcating into the oral tentacles, and one on each side of the body below the papillæ. *Dorsal tentacles* rather long, linear, transparent white, with an opaque white line down the back of each. *Oral tentacles* about the same length as the dorsal ones, linear, and swelling a little at the base. *Branchiæ* rose-coloured, with a line of opaque white in front of each, terminating in a ring at the top. They are nearly linear, tapering a little above, and set in about four ill-defined clusters on each side of the back; the first clusters contain twelve to fourteen papillæ each, the rest fewer. *Foot* slender, with the front angles produced into short tentacular processes. Length upwards of a quarter of an inch.

Discovered by Mr. D. Landsborough, jun., among the rocks at Saltcoats, Ayrshire.

Eolis Landsbergii.—*Body* very slender, of a beautiful violet or amethyst colour. *Dorsal tentacles* slender, linear, violet tipped with white. *Oral tentacles* a little longer than the dorsal pair, and of the same colour. *Branchiæ* orange-red, the sheaths violet, with a ring of white at the apices; elliptical, short and rather stout, arranged in five or six clumps; the first containing eight to twelve papillæ, the second six to nine, the others not so many. *Foot* very narrow, finely pointed behind, arched in front, and with the lateral angles not much produced. Length rather more than a quarter of an inch.

Also found by Mr. D. Landsborough at Saltcoats.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE IV.

Figs. 1, 2, 3. Different views of the *Limapontia* taken at Torbay.

Fig. 4. Enlarged view of the anus.

Fig. 5. Enlarged view of branchia.

Fig. 6. A portion of the gizzard exhibiting the teeth.

Fig. 7. Auditory capsule and otolithe.

XXX.—*Notices in connexion with the Natural History of Corfu and its vicinity.* By Captain PORTLOCK, Royal Engineers, F.R.S.*

AN insular position must in most cases render it difficult to determine the fauna or the flora of a country in respect to their actual limits, and especially the fauna, as the slightest variation in the periodical directions of the currents, whether aerial or marine, may lead to the appearance of new objects both of the vegetable and animal kingdoms.

In the 12th volume of 'Annals of Natural History' is printed a valuable paper by Capt. Drummond, 42nd R.H. regiment, with

* Read at the Meeting of the British Association, Sept. 14th, 1846.

Notes by Mr. Strickland, on the Birds of Corfu, a paper originally read before the Zoological Section at Cork. In that paper, which contains the result of the labours of a gentleman at once an able naturalist and an active sportsman, continued for a considerable time, the following summary is given:—

	Species
Common to Ionian Islands and Britain	157
Doubtful if same as British species	3
European, but not British	39
Peculiar to Ionian Islands	1

Total number of birds of the Ionian Islands... 200

From Capt. Drummond I have lately received a memorandum containing some important additions and a few corrections of his list. The additions are—

1. *Turdus pilaris*. British.
2. *T. iliacus*. Ditto.
3. *Motacilla cinereo-capilla*
4. *M. melano-cephala* } of Bonaparte's 'Fauna Italica.'

These birds were confounded with *Motacilla flava* in the Corfu list: the first is stated to be common in Italy, and the second to be found in Dalmatia, in Egypt and on the Caucasus, but to be rare in Italy.

5. *Emberiza cia*.

6. *Picus leuconotus*, confounded with *P. major*.

7. *Numenius tenuirostris*. Temminck gives Egypt as the country of this bird, but states it to be sometimes common on its passage in the southern parts of Italy, to be found near Rome, Venice and Pisa, and he adds that it is said to visit also Dalmatia and Greece. This latter statement is therefore now confirmed by Capt. Drummond.

8. *Ardea egrettoides*. This connects it with the Sicilian and Turkish localities recorded by Temminck.

9. *Corvus collaris* (Drummond). A new species distinguished from the common jackdaw by having a large crescented patch of pure white on each side of the neck. The ringed jackdaw was found by Capt. Drummond at Sajdi in Albania, and he expects that it will be found in Corfu.

The corrections are—*Alauda brachydactyla* instead of *A. isabellina*; *Sylvia leucopogon* instead of *S. conspicillata*; and the summary therefore will be, as stated by Capt. Drummond,—

	Species
Common to Ionian Islands and Great Britain	159
Doubtful if same as British species.....	2
First stated as doubtful; but as two species are said to have been confounded with it, I presume that the British species is sup- posed also to exist, viz. <i>Motacilla flava</i>	} 1
European, but not British	45
Peculiar to Ionian Islands	
New species established by Capt. Drummond, and as yet only found in Albania	} 1

Total number 209

The additions I have now to record on my own part are of a more

inglorious kind, as they have not resulted from the exertions of my own arm or the shots of my own gun, but in great measure have quietly dropped in to the lure of a silver whistle. Had Capt. Drummond confined his list to Corfu alone, I should have hesitated to record them, as the exact localities might be doubtful; but as it takes in the coast of Albania, the birds I have now to mention can without hesitation be added to it, as they were certainly all killed either on the island or on the opposite Albanian coast.

1. *Falco naevius*. In the plumage of an immature bird or as *F. maculatus*, the Spotted Eagle. Killed by my friend Dr. Mountain, R.A., at Butrinto, in December 1845, and presented to me. Temminck mentions it as inhabiting the woody and mountainous regions of Germany, as being very rare in France, more abundant in Russia and the eastern parts of Europe, and common in the south, as also in Africa, especially Egypt. Several of the gentlemen of the country say that they have seen the mature bird.

2. *Merops Savignii* (Vieill.). This beautiful and well-marked species, the *Meropa Egiziano* of Bonap., is stated to be abundant in Persia, Egypt, Tripoli, and as far as Senegal. The species was founded on specimens obtained at Genoa; another specimen was procured by Sig. Gangadi, and it is thus fairly incorporated amongst the birds of Corfu.

3. *Himantopus nigricollis*. From the marked character of one of the specimens before me, I am obliged to class it with the American species; and I shall state therefore my reasons for so doing, and then point out the peculiarities of a second specimen, which lead me to think that the natural history of these birds is yet imperfect.

Wilson says, "back, rump and tail-coverts also white, but so concealed by the scapulars as to appear black;" and such is the case: again, "line before the eye, auriculars, *back part of the neck*, scapulars and whole wings deep black, richly glossed with green;" and "in some the white from the breast extends quite round the neck, separating the *black of the hind neck* from that of the body." Now in these remarkable and striking particulars my bird is identical with that of Wilson.

Wilson says, tail "of a dingy white," whereas in my specimens the shade is beyond a dingy white, and approaches to a light slaty tinge; this however neither removes it further from the European species, in which the tail is also more or less white or ashy, nor approximates it to it. In my second specimen, which is probably a female, a young bird, the plumage is not so deep a black, but rather approaching to brown; and the neck, instead of exhibiting the complete black or brown-black, is blotched with those hues, showing distinctly an approach to the definite marking, but proving either immaturity of plumage or a state of seasonal change.

I cannot find any record of such changes, and as Wilson states the arrival of the birds to be in April, and their departure in September, it is evident he describes the summer plumage. By Yarrell one is recorded as seen by Mr. Ball at Youghall in the winter of 1823; but the greater number of specimens described by him appear to have been procured in summer, so that the plumage as described must be

also that of the summer bird. The winter plumage of the American species has yet to be determined; and from the appearance of change in my specimen, may it not prove that the two species are at this season closely approximated to each other? First specimen obtained April 9, 1846, the second a few days afterwards.

4. *Limosa melanura* (B.). In his Supplement Temminck states this bird to occur at Japan; its range is therefore very wide both to the north and south.

5. *Ardea comata* (B.). It is surprising that this beautiful species should not have occurred before in the island.

6. *Sterna Boysii* (B.), Sandwich Tern. As this has been recorded as an African bird, its appearance here only adds to its already very wide range.

7. *S. leucoptera*. As this bird is recorded by Temminck in his Supplement as common in Dalmatia, its appearance here is natural.

8. *Fuligula rufina* (B.), the Red-crested Pochard. As this species is already recorded amongst the birds of Italy, its appearance at Corfu was to be expected.

Incorporating therefore these birds into Capt. Drummond's list, the summary may be thus stated:—

	Species
Birds common to Ionian Islands and Great Britain	163
Doubtful if same as British species	2
Presumed to be British, though at first confounded with other species, and therefore rendered doubtful	} 1
European, but not British	48
Peculiar to Ionian Islands	1
New species founded by Capt. Drummond, and as yet only found in Albania	} 1
American species now first recorded as European	1

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In respect to the dates, as some were probably several days in the stuffer's hands before he brought them to me, whilst others were brought fresh, I may observe generally, that where the date is not given, it is to be understood that they were all obtained in the spring of the present year, prior to the month of May.

XXXI.—*Descriptions of some newly discovered species of Araneidea.* By JOHN BLACKWALL, F.L.S.

Tribe OCTONOCULINA.

Family THOMISIDÆ.

Genus THOMISUS, *Walck.*

1. *Thomisus incertus.*

Length of the male $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an inch; length of the cephalo-thorax $\frac{1}{4}$; breadth $\frac{1}{6}$; breadth of the abdomen $\frac{1}{6}$; length of a leg of the first pair $\frac{1}{6}$; length of a leg of the third pair $\frac{1}{8}$.

Eyes disposed on the anterior part of the cephalo-thorax in